

**Mansfield Advisory Committee
on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities**
Tuesday January 22, 2013

Attendance: Gloria Bent, Fred Goetz, Cristina Colon-Semenza, Donna Korbel (UCONN), Kathy Easley (staff), Kevin Grunwald (staff)

Regrets: Jennifer Tanner

Chairman, Fred Goetz called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.,.

Approval of the Minutes

After review the minutes of December 18, 2012 were approved as written.

New Business (other added by majority vote)

1. Mansfield Tomorrow

K. Grunwald shared a draft brochure for Mansfield Tomorrow. HUD grant money received by the town will be used to work on the town plan for conservation and development, which has to be updated every 10 years.

Volunteers are needed for the Mansfield Tomorrow Advisory Committee. There will be other opportunities for resident participation as well (such as focus groups and online questionnaires).

A public information session to introduce the process will take place at Buchanan Auditorium on Wednesday, Jan 30th at 7 p.m.

The committee agreed that the focus on land use, housing, and transportation would be of interest to MACPD. If anyone on MACPD is interested in serving on

the Mansfield Tomorrow advisory committee they should contact Linda Painter.

2. Other (addition agreed to by consensus of the committee) Acquiring greater awareness of ADA by MACPD

C. Colon-Semenza suggested the committee engage in a planned program of study of The Americans with Disabilities Act. Following discussion the committee agreed to engage in a course of study. Donna Korbel (UCONN office of Students with Disabilities) will lead some of the study.

Old Business

1. Letter to Town Council re: Walkway

G. Bent shared Council reaction at the 1/15/2013 meeting to a letter she had written in response to the 12/10/2012 council meeting and comments made at that meeting concerning MACPD's letter asking about the status of the South Eagleville sidewalk. She noted that a recent article in The Willimantic Chronicle announced a council decision to delay action on the sidewalk while Mansfield Tomorrow is underway. The article indicated the time frame for action on the sidewalk would likely expire during this planning process.

2. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

K. Grunwald reported on the Transportation Advisory committee meeting where the South Eagleville sidewalk was discussed. TAC does believe the sidewalk is needed.

3. UN Treaty on the Rights of those with Disabilities

The committee agreed to table this discussion until next meeting.

4. Accessibility issues previously identified

Curb cuts

K. Grunwald reported that he had received a response to the committee's inquiry about curb cuts. They are not a Transportation Advisory Committee issue but a Traffic Authority issue. The MACPD curb cut inquiry will now go the Traffic Authority.

5. Membership

K Easley asked if an appointment to this committee of a high school student would be appropriate. The committee agreed it would bring a welcome new perspective. Donna Korbel will look at participants in UCONN's student leadership conference for possible candidates.

6. Review of PZC referrals/Meeting with Lynn Stoddard

The High Ropes course has been approved by PZC with some modifications. The committee agreed MACPD is still interested in meeting with Ms. Stoddard. K. Grunwald will advise the committee members when a Friday meeting has been arranged.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next meeting - 2/19/2013 @ 2:30

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Bent, Recording Secretary